

To: Jenkins, Laura Flynn[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov]
From: Perrin, Rebecca
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 10:05:31 PM
Subject: Aquaculture in Colorado - Gold King

Laura,

Yesterday, at an unrelated meeting, Kendra Holmes, President of the Colorado Aquaculture Association (303-697-5486 X1000), let me know that she is aware of two aquaculture operations in the Animas River area. She has inquiries out to their members to find out if any of them are having issues or need support. She said she believes that both operations are using well water and were not pulling from the Animas River for their operations but she is not sure where they get their well water from or how close these operations are to the River.

I spoke with her again today, and she said that after our meeting she reached out again to Patrick Goddard (970-779-2713) who is the Southwest Representative for their association and on their Board. His farm is located in Durango and he is also a veterinarian. She said he would be the best person to talk to about how many operations are in the area; what kind of systems they run (flow through or recirculation); if their operations use springs or wells. She said that most of their members raise fish for recreational purposes but some raise their fish for food consumption. She is not sure what the farms in this area are doing. The only fish processing facilities she is aware of are located in Canon City and Alamosa areas. Then she thinks there are some in Denver too, but she would have to research this to find out more. She said this is the busiest time of the year for the fish farms in the state so she is not surprised that she has not heard back from Patrick on her inquiries. She said she has many concerns/questions but the one of most importance to her after water quality is do these operations have enough water quantity supply. She said the aquaculture farms in this area struggle to find enough water to begin with, so how are they doing on supply? Do they have enough to get them through this emergency or is their access to water being impaired with others needed it for drinking and stock watering.

I also reached out to Wayne East at the Colorado Department of Agriculture (303-697-5486), who permits aquaculture facilities in CO to see if I can figure out where these farms are located. The list on the website dated 4/17/15 is not the most current. The operations below are permitted facilities. However, there could be unpermitted facilities in the area. To be unpermitted the facility would be a closed system. Which means systems that use a well or municipal water and do not discharge to waters of the state do not require a permit.

I hope this additional information helps the PIO contact for ag in Durango related to the Japanese

government's question.

Please let me know if I can be of any other assistance.

Rebecca Perrin

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* May be outside of spill area